THE

CARMEN SECULARE

OF

HORACE.

Set to Muſic by Mr. *PHILIDOR.*

PERSONAGES.

Horacius,

High Prieſt of Apollo,

High Prieſteſs of Diana,

Roman Senators,

Veſtals,

Boys and Girls,

Soldiers,

People.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE CARMEN SECULARE was compoſed by HORACE in AUGUSTUS's time, to celebrate the Secular Plays. Mr. BARETTI juſtly thought this Carmen was made to be *ſung*; he therefore has had it ſet to muſic, and has been long ſeeking (as he ſays himſelf in his Preface) an original genius to compoſe this work in a ſtile quite new; he imagined that Mr. PHILIDOR (of whoſe ſeveral works he has heard) was the only man who could fulfil his intentions. The ſucceſs this work has had in the Courts of *Europe*, is a proof that he was not miſtaken; many Sovereigns have teſtified their approbation to Mr. PHILIDOR, and the EMPRESS of RUSSIA has been pleaſed, through BARON GRIMM (the Miniſter Plenipotentiary at the Court of *France*)

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to permit this work to be dedicated to her, and to make him a preſent of a Thouſand Roubles, as a mark of her approbation.

Copy of the BARON GRIMM's *Letter.*

" SIR,

" THE ſucceſs that the *Polymetrum Saturnium* " has met with in *London* and at *Paris*, has made " the EMPRESS of RUSSIA deſirous of knowing a " compoſition, of which the difficulty removed is " the leaſt merit, though this deſign ſeemed to " preſent inſurmountable obſtacles. This great " Princeſs, on whom all the eminent talents, and " works of genius (to whatever claſs they belong) " have immediate influence, does not confine " herſelf to hear your's in concert, but has written " to one of the greateſt and moſt celebrated men " in *Italy*, to aſk him for a Deſcription, to heighten " the charm of your Muſic, by the pomp of the " ſpectacle, and the exact repreſentation of the " religious ceremonies that inſpired you.

" Her Imperial Majeſty, Sir, grants me a very " great favour, in honouring me with her commands " on this occaſion, and has ordered me to remit

" you

" you a proof of her Eſteem. You know the value
" I have ſet on your talents at all times, and beg
" you to believe that my ſatisfaction at ſeeing them
" encouraged by a ſovereign, whoſe bounty equals
" her glory, is as ſincere as the inviolable attach-
" ment with which I have the honour to be,

" Sir,

" Your moſt humble,

" And moſt obedient Servant,

" GRIMM."

This idea of her Imperial Majeſty (noble and great as herſelf) has firſt given the idea of anticipating the execution of it. Mr. Le Texier, to whom the Knights of the Order of the Bath have thought fit to entruſt the care of the direction of the Fete deſigned for their Inſtallation, thought he could offer nothing more new, ſtriking, and ſuitable to the preſent occaſion. He has therefore ſpared no pains to give this Entertainment all the ſolemnity and the magnificence of the Antique, and he hopes his endeavours will be crowned by the general approbation of the Auguſt Aſſembly, before whom this new ſpecies of Entertainment is to be repreſented.

CARMEN SECULARE,

SIVE

POLYMETRUM SATURNIUM

IN LUDOS SECULARES.

PROLOGUS.

Propoſita argumenti dignitate, Poeta animos ad audiendum comparat.

ODI profanum vulgus, et arceo.
Favete linguis. Carmina non prius
Audita, Muſarum Sacerdos,
Virginibus Puerifque canto.

THE

SECULAR POEM,

OR, THE

SATURNALIAN SONGS

Sung at the SECULAR GAMES.

The PROLOGUE.

The Poet beſpeaks the attention of the hearers by the greatneſs of his ſubject.

FAR from theſe rites be the unhallowed multitude! Be every inauſpicious ſyllable ſuppreſſed, while I, whom the Muſes have conſecrated, ſing holy lays till now unheard, and ſing them to Maidens and to Boys.

PRIMA PARS.

Admonet Poeta Pueros ac Puellas ut carmina bene recitent.

SPIRITUM Phœbus mihi, Phœbus artem
Carminis, nomenque dedit Poetæ.
Virginum primæ, Puerique claris
Patribus orti,
Deliæ tutela Deæ, fugaces
Lyncas et cervos cohibentis arcu,
Lesbium servate pedem, meique
Pollicis ictum;
Rite Latonæ Puerum canentes,
Rite crescentem face Noctilucam,
Prosperam frugum, celeremque pronos
Volvere menses.
Nupta jam dices: Ego Dîs amicum,
Seculo festas referente luces,
Reddidi carmen, docilis modorum
Vatis Horatî.

SECUNDA PARS.

Rogat Apollinem chorus uterque, ut Seculare Carmen probet ac tueatur.

DIVE, quem proles Niobæa magnæ
Vindicem linguæ, Tityosque raptor
Sensit, et Trojæ prope victor altæ
Phthius Achilles,
Cæteris major, tibi miles impar;
Filius quamquam Thetidos marinæ
Dardanas turres quateret tremenda
Cuspide pugnax.

PART THE FIRST.

The Poet exhorts the young Singers of both ſexes to ſing his verſes well.

APOLLO has conferred upon me the ſpirit of ſong, the art of verſe, and the name of Poet. Ye noble Maidens, and ye Boys of illuſtrious birth, whoſe guardian is the Delian Goddeſs; ſhe, who by her bow awes the ſtags and the lynxes, obſerve the Sapphick cadence, and the ſtroke of my hand, while you ſing with due ſolemnity the Son of Latona and the nocturnal Queen of increaſing light, that gives proſperity to the harveſt, and ſpeeds the courſe of the flowing months. When you are married, you will ſay: I was one of thoſe who, when the age concluded with days of feſtivity, recited the Song made in honour of the Gods by Horace the Poet.

PART THE SECOND.

Both Choirs implore of Apollo to approve and protect the Secular Song.

HEAR, O Phœbus, hear our invocation! Thou, in whom the children of Niobe found the puniſher of a preſumptuous tongue, and the raviſher Tityus the chaſtiſer of luſt! Thou, whoſe force was felt by Achilles the Phthian prince, when Troy was almoſt in his power! Achilles was the firſt of men and of warriours;

Ille, mordaci velut icta ferro
Pinus, aut impulsa cupressus Euro,
Procidit late, posuitque collum in
Pulvere Teucro.
Ille non inclusus equo Minervæ
Sacra mentito, malè feriatos
Troas, et lætam Priami choreis
Falleret aulam;
Sed palam, captis gravis, heu nefas, heu!
Nescios fari pueros Achivis
Ureret flammis, etiam latentes
Matris in alvo;
Ni, tuis victus, Venerisque gratæ
Vocibus, Divûm Pater adnuisset
Rebus Æneæ, potiore ductos
Alite muros.
Doctor Argeæ fidicen Thaliæ,
Phœbe, qui Xantho lavis amne crines,
Dauniæ defende decus Camœnæ,
Levis Agyieu!

TERTIA PARS.

Hortantur se mutuo Pueri ac Puellæ ad celebrandos Apollinis et Dianæ laudes.

Chorus Puerorum.

DIANAM teneræ dicite Virgines.

Chorus Puellarum.

Intonsum, Pueri, dicite Cynthium;

Uterque Chorus.

Latonamque supremo
Dilectam penitus Jovi.

yet of force inferiour to thee, though he was the ſon of Thetis, Queen of the Sea; though with his tremendous lance he ſhook the battlements of Troy! Like a pine ſtricken by the biting ſteel, or a cypreſs torn up by the eaſtern blaſt, he ſpread his bulk upon the ground, and laid his head in Phrygian duſt!. he would not have lurked in the horſe fictitiouſly conſecrated to Minerva, nor have ſtolen on the Trojans in their unſeaſonable revels, or upon the court of Priam amidſt gaiety and dances; but what is horrible to think, would in the open cruelty of conqueſt have thrown infants and children, ripped from their mothers, into Grecian fires, had not the Father of the Gods yielded to thy intreaties and thoſe of the lovely Venus, and permitted Eneas to raiſe new walls with better fortune. Thou, great inſtructor of the Greek Thalia, who batheſt thy treſſes in the ſtream of Xanthus, whether thy name be Phebus or young Agyieus, ſupport the honour of the Italian Muſe!

PART THE THIRD.

The Boys and Maidens, forming two choirs, encourage each other to ſing the praiſes of Apollo and Diana.

The Boys.

SING Diana, ye tender maidens.

The Maidens.

Boys, ſing ye Cynthius with flowing air.

Both Choirs.

Sing alſo Latona, beloved of Jupiter the ſupreme.

Chorus Puerorum.

Vos lætam fluviis et nemorum coma
Quæcunque aut gelido prominet Algido,
Nigris aut Erymanthi
Sylvis, aut viridis Gragi:

Chorus Puellarum.

Vos Tempe totidem tollite laudibus,
Natalemque, mares, Delon Apollinis,
Insignemque pharetra
Fraternaque humerum lyra.

Chorus Puerorum.

Hæc bellum lacrymosum,

Chorus Puellarum.

Hic miseram famem
Pestemque

Uterque Chorus.

A populo et principe Cæsare in
Mauros, Seras, et Indos
Vestra motus aget prece.

PARS QUARTA.

Preces pro Imperii et Imperatoris incolumitate.

Uterque Chorus.

PHOEBE, sylvarumque potens Diana,
Lucidum cœli decus, ô colendi
Semper et culti, date quæ precamur
Tempore sacro!
Quo Sibyllini monuere versus,
Virgines lectas Puerosque castos,
Dis, quibus septem placuere colles,
Dicere carmen.

The Boys.

Sing the goddeſs who delights in ſtreams, and in the ſhades that overhang the chill Algidum, the gloomy Erymanthus, and the verdant Gragum.

The Maidens.

Celebrate the valley of Tempe, and Delos, the native iſland of Apollo. Deſcribe the ſhoulder graced with a quiver, and with the lyre of his brother Mercury.

The Boys.

Diana ſhall avert the ſorrows of war:

The Maidens.

Apollo ſhall turn aſide the miſeries of famine and peſtilence.

Both Choirs.

From the Romans and our ſovereign Auguſtus, and drive them on the Mauritanians, the Seres, and the Indians. Such ſhall be the effect of our ſupplications.

PART THE FOURTH.

Prayers for the proſperity of the Empire and the Emperour.

Both Choirs.

PHEBUS, and thou Diana, ſovereign of foreſts, reſplendent ornaments of Heaven, for ever adorable, and for ever adored! Grant us what we ſolicit at this ſacred time, when, as the Sybil has directed in her verſes, the choſen Virgins and untainted Boys hymn the divine Protectors of the ſeven Hills!

Chorus Puerorum.

Alme Sol, curru nitido diem qui
Promis et celas, aliusque et idem
Nascéris, possis nihil urbe Roma
Visere majus!

Chorus Puellarum.

Rite maturos aperire partus,
Lenis Ilithyia, tuere matres,
Sive tu Lucina probas vocari,
Seu Genethyllis.
Diva, producas sobolem, Patrumque
Prosperes decreta super jugandis
Fœminis, prolisque novæ feraci
Lege marita!

Uterque Chorus.

Certus undenos decies per annos
Orbis, ut cantos referatque ludos,
Ter die claro, totiesque grata
Nocte frequentes.
Vosque veraces cecinisse Parcæ,
Quod semel dictum est, stabilisque rerum
Terminus servet, bona jam peractis
Jungite fata.
Fertilis frugum pecorisque tellus
Spicea donet Cererem corona;
Nutriant fœtus et aquæ salubres
Et Jovis auræ.

Chorus Puerorum.

Condito mitis placidusque telo,
Supplices audi Pueros Apollo!

Chorus Puellarum.

Siderum Regina bicornis, audi,
Luna, Puellas!

The Boys.

Sol, thou cheriſher of life, who in thy glittering chariot bringeſt and withdraweſt light! Who riſeſt every day another and the ſame! Mayeſt thou viſit nothing greater than the City of Rome!

The Maidens.

Thou, good Ilithyia, who kindly ſofteneſt the pangs of travail, whether thou delight in the name of Lucina or Genethyllis, lend, Goddeſs, thy aſſiſtance to the pregnant mothers, give the children an eaſy birth, proſper the decrees of the Senate for promoting wedlock, and grant that the marriage law be productive of a new generation!

Both Choirs.

Grant that every revolving century may regularly continue its feſtal Songs and crowded Games for three ſplendid days and three happy nights! And, O ye Siſters of Deſtiny, that ſing with unfailing veracity what has been once decreed, and is eſtabliſhed by the unalterable ſettlement of things; join new predictions of happineſs to thoſe that have been now fulfilled! May the earth be plenteouſly productive of corn and cattle, and yield a garland of wheat-ears for the brows of Ceres! May the younglings of our herds enjoy ſalutary waters, and the ſoft gales of favouring Jupiter!

The Boys.

Attend, Apollo, to the ſupplicating Boys! Be propitious, and ſheath thy fatal darts!

The Maidens.

Hear, Luna, the voice of the Maidens! Hear it, Queen of the Stars!

Uterque Chorus.

Roma ſi veſtrum eſt opus, Iliæque
Litus Etruſcum tenuere turmæ,
Juſſa pars mutare lares et urbem
Soſpite curſu;
Cui per ardentem ſine fraude Trojam
Caſtus Æneas patriæ ſuperſtes
Liberum munivit iter, daturus
Plura relictis;
Dî, probos mores docili juventæ;
Dî, ſenectuti placidæ quietem;
Romulæ genti date remque, prolem-
que, et decus omne.
Quique vos bobus veneratur albis,
Clarus Anchiſæ Veneriſque ſanguis,
Imperet, bellante prior, jacentem
Lenis in hoſtem.
Jam mari terraque manus potentes
Medus, Albanaſque timet ſecures;
Jam Scythæ reſponſa petunt, ſuperbi
Nuper et Indi.
Jam fides, et pax, et honos, pudorque
Priſcus, et neglecta redire virtus
Audet, adparetque beata pleno
Copia cornu.

Chorus Puerorum.

Augur, et fulgente decorus arcu,
Phœbus, acceptuſque novem Camenis,
Qui ſalutari levat arte feſſos
Corporis artus,
Si Palatinas videt æquus arces,
Remque Romanam, Latiumque felix,
Alterum in luſtrum, meliuſque ſemper
Proroget ævum.

Both Choirs.

If Rome be your own work; if by your command the Trojan bands forſook their town and their houſhold gods, and were brought by a propitious voyage to habitations on the Tuſcan ſhore: If Eneas, having ſurvived his country, and eſcaping unhurt through the flames of Troy, ſecured to his followers an unobſtructed paſſage, and beſtowed upon them more than they had loſt: If you have hitherto been favourable, give, ye Gods, to our youth docility and virtue; give to quiet age the comfort of repoſe; give to Rome increaſe of riches and of people, and whatever can make her illuſtrious. Be it your will, ye Gods, that the great deſcendant of Anchiſes and of Venus, who is now laying white oxen on your altars, may dignify his reign, not ſo much by ſucceſsful war, as by his gentleneſs to proſtrate enemies. Already is the Mede awed by the Roman magiſtrate. Already does he dread the hand which is equally powerful by land and ſea. Already do the Scythians and the Indians, of late ſo proud, ſend humble embaſſies. Faith, Peace, and Honour, with antiquated Modeſty, and neglected Virtue, now venture to return, and wealthy Plenty, with her full horn, makes her appearance.

The Boys.

May Phebus the diviner, he, who is graced with the refulgent bow; he who is dear to the nine Muſes, and whoſe ſalutary ſkill gives new vigour to the languid limbs: May Phebus, if he looks with pleaſure on the Palatine Edifices, on the State of Rome, and the felicity of Latium, protract their duration for ever, and make every ſecular feſtivity an improvement of the former.

Chorus Puellarum.

Quæque Aventinum tenet, Algidumque,
Quindecim Diana preces virorum
Curet, et votis Puerorum amicas
Adplicet aures.

Uterque Chorus.

Hæc Jovem sentire, Deosque cunctos,
Spem bonam certamque domum reporto,
Doctus et Phœbi chorus et Dianæ
Dicere laudes.

FINIS POLYMETRI SATURNII.

EPILOGUS.

QUÆ fausta Romæ dixit Horatius,
Hæc fausta vobis dicimus, Angliæ
Opes, triumphos, et subacti
Imperium pelagi precantes.

FINIS.

The Maidens.

May Diana, reſiding on the Aventine-Hill, and in Algidum, attend to the prayers of the Sibylline Prieſts, and give a favouring ear to the ſupplications of the boys!

Both Choirs.

Thus inſtructed to ſing the praiſes of Phebus and Diana, we go home fraught with fair and confident hope, that Jupiter and all the Gods have anſwered our petitions.

THE END OF THE SATURNALIAN SONGS.

EPILOGUE.

SUCH ſtrains as, mingled with the lyre,
Could Rome with future greatneſs fire,
Ye Sons of England deign to hear,
Nor think our wiſhes leſs ſincere.
May ye the varied bleſſings ſhare
Of plenteous peace and proſp'rous war;
And o'er the globe extend your reign,
Unbounded Maſters of the main.

THE END.

The ſcore to be had of Meſſ. LONGMAN and BRODERIP,
in CHEAPSIDE and the HAYMARKET.

To be had of MOLL, LONGMAN and BOWLES
in CHANCERY-LANE and the HAYMARKET.